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Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 02302 010247Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00
NSAE-00 /014 W
----------010612 083352 /20
R 010059Z MAR 77
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3931
INFO USLO PEKING

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FOR EA/PRCM HART FROM ANDERSON

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: CVIS PFOR CH US
SUBJECT: DAVID WANG VISA APPLICATIONS AND PRC VISA POLICIES

REF: HART-ANDERSON LETTER DATED FEBRUARY 2, 1977

1. WE HAVE DONE OME CHECKING WITH LOCAL CHINESE-AMERICANS AND WITH CHINA TRAVEL SERVICE, HONG KONG, CONCERNING VISA ISSUANCE POLICIES. THE FOLLOWING IS OUR BEST UNDERSTANDING OF THOSE POLICIES AND SHOULD PROVIDE ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS.

2. CHINA TRAVEL SERVICES ASSERTS THAT NO DISTINCTIONS IS MADE BETWEEN CHINESE-AMERICAN CITIZENS AND OTHER AMERICAN PASSPORT HOLDERS IN THE PROCEDURE FOR ISSUING VISAS. FACTS, HOWEVER, DO NOT APPEAR ENTIRELY TO BEAR THIS OUT. DAVID WANG, WHEN HE APPLIED ON A REGULAR SERVICE PASSPORT, WAS GIVEN A PRINTED STATEMENT THAT, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 1977 ALL CHINESE AMERICAN CITIZENS REQUESTING VISAS FOR THE PRC MUST APPLY THROUGH PRCLO IN WASHINGTON. FOR OTHER THAN ETHNIC CHINESE-AMERICAN CITIZENS, CHINA TRAVEL SERVICES DIVIDES US PASSPORT HOLDERS INTO TWO GROUPS: (A) BUSINESS
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TRAVELLERS WHO ARE INSTRUCTED TO CONTACT THEIR COUNTERPART FIRM IN THE PRC TO REQUEST THAT THEY SECURE A VISA FOR THE BUSINCES TRAVELLERS, AND (B) HONG KONG RESIDENTS WISHING TO GO TO CHINA FOR TOURIST PURPOSES WHO ARE INSTRUCTED TO CONTACT EITHET CHINA INTERNATIONAL TRAVAL SERVICE, PEKING , OR PRCLO WASINGTON.

3. THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN CHINESE-AMERICANS AND OTHER US

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PASSPORTS HOLDERS THUS APPEARS TO BE ONLY THAT THE LATTER HAVE THE OPTION OF APPLYING THROUGH CHINA INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL SERVICE. AS REGARDS CHINESE-AMERICANS HOLDING OFFICIAL OR DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS, WE DON'T HAVE ANY PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE, NOR APPARENTLY DID CHINA TRAVEL SERVICE. ALL OTHER CONGEN MEMBERS TRAVELLING PRIVATELLY TO THE PRC HAVE GONE AS GUESTS OF USLO STAFF MEMBERS. IT APPEARS, HOWEVER, THAT CHINA TRAVEL SERVICE MADE A DECISION THAT NO DISTINCTION SHOULD BE MADE BETWEEN OFFICAL AND NON-OFFICIAL CHINESE AMERICANS.

4. IF DEPARTMENT HAS NO OBJECTION, RECOMMEND DAVID WANG BE PERMITTED TO PROCEED WITH HIS VISAS APPLICATIONS THROUGH PRCLO. CROSS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRAVEL CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 01-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977HONGK02302
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770069-0687
Format: TEL
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197703106/aaaadpte.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2953588
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DAVID WANG VISA APPLICATIONS AND PRC VISA POLICIES
TAGS: CVIS, PFOR, CH, US, (WANG, DAVID)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7c0928ad-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009